

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 1057 AN ACT TO RESTRICT THE PAYMENT OF THE
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS TO WORKERS
ND: 209 WHO ARE ON STRIKE

WILLEY
TWITCHELL
BELL
BROWN A
PUBLIC
CH # 66

HOUSE Enacted
SENATE Enacted
GOV SIGNED

SUMMARY:

This bill is a new draft of LD 209. That bill would have disqualified an individual from receiving unemployment compensation benefits if his unemployment was due to a labor dispute at his workplace, regardless of whether or not there was an actual work stoppage at the workplace. The new draft retains the work stoppage requirement of present law, but ensures that no employee will qualify for benefits if substantially normal operations are maintained by the employer without hiring new personnel to do the work normally done by the striking employees. Employers are free to use previously employed, nonstriking personnel to do that work, and to hire new personnel to do other tasks not normally done by the striking workers without automatically authorizing unemployment compensation benefits to be paid to the strikers.

LD: 1062 AN ACT TO REFORM THE MAINE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION SYSTEM

MCGOWAN
DIAMOND G
JOSEPH
BRANNIGAN

ONTP HOUSE Accepted Committee Report
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

SUMMARY:

LD 1062 presented the Governor's workers' compensation package. The insurance rate-setting portion of the bill was sent to the Business and Commerce committee. Highlights of the remainder of the Governor's package included the reduction of the maximum weekly benefit level to 110% of the state average weekly wage; establishing a 5% cap on annual benefit increases; providing a uniform payment scheme for permanent impairment benefits based on 2/3 of the state average weekly wage rather than 2/3 of an individual's average weekly wage; providing for the automatic termination of death benefits to a widow who remarries; providing for the coordination of workers' compensation benefits with employer-financed benefits received under social security and other employee benefit plans; requiring mandatory 1 and 3-year reviews of long-term disability cases; limiting the payment of attorneys' fees to employees to only those cases in which the employee prevails; abolishing the apportionment of liability in subsequent injury cases; and repealing the so-called "Mini-Miranda" rule. Much of this bill was incorporated into the committee compromise bill, LD 1634.